

Message Text

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 L-03 FRB-03 OMB-01
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INFO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
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USEEC USOECD

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: UNCTAD
SUBJECT: UNCTAD - COMMON FUND

1. AT COORDINATORS MEETING FEB 24 TO PREPARE FOR FORTH-
COMING TDB MINISTERIAL, SYG COREA GAVE BRIEF GENERAL REPORT
ON HIS CONSULTATIONS ON COMMON FUND. HE NOTED THAT HE
HAD VISITED PARIS, LONDON, BONN, WASHINGTON (AND NEW YORK)
AND OTTAWA AND THAT DURING CONSULTATIONS HE HAD DISCUSSED
BOTH COMMON FUND AND DEBT. HE REPORTED HE HAD BEEN
RECEIVED AT HIGH LEVELS IN ALL COUNTRIES AND IN EACH
CAPITAL HAD SEEN MINISTERS. CONCERNING COMMON FUND, HE
SAID HE HAD MADE POINT TO GOVERNMENTS THAT IT WOULD BE
DESIRABLE TO RESUME CF NEGOTIATIONS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE
BUT THAT EXACT TIMING WOULD DEPEND ON PROSPECTS FOR
SUCCESSFUL MEETING. HE SAID HE HAD MENTIONED MAY AS
POSSIBLE TIME FOR RESUMPTION BUT HADN'T DISCUSSED EXACT
DATES. HE NOTED THAT HIS INTERLOCATORS HAD ALL INDICATED
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WILLINGNESS TO TRY TO ARRIVE AT AGREEMENT ON COMMON FUND
AND HE WAS ENCOURAGED THAT ALL EXPRESSED DESIRE TO FIND
SOLUTIONS FOR OUTSTANDING PROBLEMS. ANOTHER COMMON THEME
IN ALL CAPITALS VISITED WAS THAT NEGOTIATING SESSION SHOULD
NOT BE RECONVENED IF IT WOULD MERELY BE REPEAT OF LAST
UNSUCCESSFUL MEETING. COREA SAID THAT SOME OF THE
BUILDING BLOCKS FOR AN AGREED COMMON FUND ARE STARTING TO

TAKE SHAPE AND THAT HE CONSIDERED WORK ON COMMON FUND WILL START ACCELERATING. ALL AGREE THAT COMMON FUND SHOULD BE VIABLE AND EFFECTIVE. HE ALSO POINTED TO NEED FOR SOME MECHANISM SO THAT VARIOUS PARTIES WOULD BE AWARE OF VIEWS OF OTHERS AND IN CONCLUSION EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THE PICTURE CONCERNING THE DATE FOR RESUMPTION WILL SOON START CRYSTALIZING BUT AS OF NOW IT WOULD BE PREMATURE TO SUGGEST A DATE.

2. G-77 CF SPOKESMAN, AMBASSADOR ALATAS, SAID THAT G-77 AGREE THAT WHILE IT WOULD BE PREFERABLE TO RESUME EARLIER RATHER THAN LATER, ALL ARE GREATLY CONCERNED THAT THE DECISION ON TIMING BE TAKEN ONLY AFTER THERE IS A CONVICTION THAT THERE IS A VIABLE BASIS TO PROCEED AND A CLEAR EXPECTATION OF SUCCESS. HE SAID HE WAS ENCOURAGED BY COREA'S OPTIMISM. (COREA REJOINED THAT HE WOULD NOT WISH TO LEAVE IMPRESSION THAT THERE ARE NO MAJOR PROBLEMS, BUT ON OTHER HAND HE DID CONSIDER THAT THERE ARE AT LEAST POSSIBILITIES OF PROGRESS. ALL PARTIES TO WHOM HE HAD TALKED CLEARLY WANT TO RESOLVE THE COMMON FUND ISSUE BEFORE UNCTAD V.) ALATAS ALSO SAID HE WOULD APPRECIATE COREA'S VIEWS AS TO HOW TO CRYSTALIZE A DECISION ON RESUMING THE NEGOTIATIONS. COREA SAID HE WAS NOT NOW IN A POSITION TO RESPOND.

3. GROUP B SPOKESMAN (AMBASSADOR HESSEL OF FRANCE)
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LIMITED REMARKS TO EXPRESSING APPRECIATION FOR COREA REPORT AND STATING THAT HE WAS SURE THAT AFTER CONSULTATIONS COREA HAD A CLEARER VIEW OF THE POSITIONS OF ALL PARTIES AND THE PREREQUISITES FOR PROGRESS. VANDEN HEUVEL

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